GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3710
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
CONSTRUCTION OF DAMS BARRAGES ON RIVERS
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dams/barrages constructed on major rivers in the country;

(b) the studies conducted on the adverse impact of dams in downstream areas resulting in silting of riverbeds causing floods; and

(c) the outcome thereof and the preventive steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) There are about 4050 completed large dams in the country and 475 dams are under construction which include a few barrages which conform to the norms of the large dams.

(b)&(c) The river valley projects are appraised by various appraising agencies before the Planning Commission provides investment clearance to the State concerned for investment. The adverse impacts of dams are studied under the environmental impact assessment which include negative aspects like submergence of forest and agricultural land, displacement of people, land degradation, soil erosion, waterlogging, effect on flora and fauna, etc. The impact of the dam on the down stream river regime is studied as part of appraisal and the necessary preventive measures are taken by the implementing organisations as per the stipulations made by the appraising agencies.